

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett. Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1952 Negligence Causing Death

When an individual is injured by the negligence of another he may recover damages at law for that injury of which pecuniary loss may be merely a minor part. The courts will take into consideration pain and suffering, disfigurement, social disadvantages and in fact almost any measurable ill consequence of the injury.

When death results, however, at common law the claim for damages dies with the victim. By Lord Campbell's Act and in this Province by the Fatal Accidents Act a right of action is given on behalf of the next-of-kin but it is limited to the actual pecuniary loss which the survivors can show they have sustained.

In some other Provinces, notably in British Columbia and Manitoba, the anomaly is corrected by either continuing all the rights of the deceased, including loss of expectation of life, for the benefit of his estate, or else by allowing his survivors to claim not only for their pecuniary loss but also for mental anguish and for the loss of all the advantages of having that relative alive and well.

The first principle is probably the more satisfactory as it is obviously less trying for the survivors to claim what the deceased would have been entitled to than to go into the details of their own sense of loss. In any case the law as it stands is in urgent need of reform.

Another Timely Reminder

One again the long-neglected possibilities of electrical power development in the Maritimes have been brought to the fore, this time by Mr. Frank S. Small, of Aphaqui, N. B., a retired engineer, who addressed the Moncton Branch of the Engineering Institute of Canada on the subject this week. Mr. Small illustrated his talk with graphs showing that while Canada has now developed 13,000,000 horsepower in its hydro plants, in the Maritime Provinces the total hydro development is only 286,000.

The H. G. Acres survey of the Petitcodiac and Memramcook, completed in November, 1945, had not proved economically sound, because the estimated cost of development was \$155,700,000. The power output would have ranged from 76,000 horsepower to 255,000 horsepower, and this would have meant an expenditure of \$2,409 per continuous horsepower. For the mean tide with an output averaging 203,000 horsepower it would mean a cost of \$767 horsepower. Either of these figures is prohibitive and the site is undoubtedly too expensive for the volume of power that can be produced.

In brief outline the idea proposed is to build a rock fill dam across the channel from Cape Split to the north shore. This dam would be located as far west as possible to provide the maximum space for the power house which would extend eastward from the dam along the peninsula toward Cape Blomidon. The water area of the proposed dam would be 465 square miles at high water and 327 at low water. On that basis, the development would work out to 10,000,000 horsepower for the full tidal period. Mr. Small advocated a dam across the Chignecto Bay from Cape Enrage, N. B., to Sand River, N. S., with a channel excavated behind it, resulting in a similar layout to that at Cape Split.

radius is the present practical limit for power transmission. If a 500-mile limit became a commercial reality all or nearly all of Newfoundland could be covered.

Mr. Small urged that the Maritimes start, not with the world's largest tidal power plant, but with a much smaller and cheaper development, or twin plant such as appeared feasible in the development of St. Mary Bay and Digby Basin in Nova Scotia. This project would yield a substantial block of power and would start the industrial growth of the Maritimes. Later, he said, the lessons learned would be applied to the much greater problem of harnessing the power now going to waste at the head of the Bay.

It is difficult, of course, for the layman to check the above quoted figures, but there can be no doubt as to the accuracy of the speaker's main contention, that there is enough power now going to waste at the head of the Bay of Fundy to transform the Maritime Provinces and be of tremendous benefit to all of Canada. This is a scheme on a par with the St. Lawrence waterway project in national importance, and our representatives at Ottawa should emphasize this fact at every opportunity.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, fifth Sunday after Easter, Rogation Sunday.

On Monday the Salvation Army opens its campaign to raise funds for the extension of Sunset Lodge and for the continuance of the great work of the "Army".

Tomorrow is Battle of the Atlantic Sunday, commemorating the grim and long-drawn-out struggle by sea and air to get shipping through the U-boats to the British Isles.

A good motto for Safety Week, which begins tomorrow, is that, "Accidents do not happen, they are caused." As the greatest number of accidents occur at home we do not have to go far to look around for probable causes.

The R. C. M. P. band is scheduled to be here on August 15 and 16, and will give performances at Charlottetown and Summerside. It will be a most suitable time while Summer visitors are with us and out-of-door entertainment the order of the day.

A group of American scientists have been seeding New Mexican clouds with silver nitrate on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and claim that as a result it rains in the east on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. If they want support for their experiments it might be a good idea to leave eastern week-ends alone.

Chickens coming home to roost. Dr. James S. Simmons, dean of the Harvard School of Public Health, suggests that some mental ailments and diseases of old age may stem from measles, mumps or other infectious diseases of childhood. Which implies that efforts should be made to prevent such epidemics if we desire to eliminate mental troubles later on.

A birth notice in a Toronto newspaper on Wednesday said: "Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Massey are pleased to announce the birth of quadruplets, Robin, Robinette, Joan and Jerry, Saturday, May 10, 1952. All doing nicely." Friends who rushed to the Massey home to offer congratulations found the quads in a robin's nest just outside the Massey apartment window.

Tribute to the hardness of Scottish tweed has been found in the letters of President Roosevelt. "In 1878", he wrote, "my father had a tweed suit made in Edinburgh. He wore the suit constantly until his death in 1900. I inherited it and wore it steadily until 1926, when I passed it on to my boy, James. He still has it and wears it in the winter time, when he is in the country."

Mafeking was relieved this date 1900 by Col. (later Field Marshal Lord) Plumer. It had been gallantly defended for 280 days by Col. (later Lord) Baden-Powell, to whose remarkable resource and courage was due the fact that it managed to hold out. During the siege the defenders manufactured a look-out tower, ammunition, a "searchlight" and even a "gun", the latter improvised out of drain-pipes and named "The Wolf".

"That fellow", (Lord Boyd-Orr, President of the International Food and Agricultural Association), is not very popular with Senator Haig, evidently because he suggested that the best thing for the development of trade and commerce would be for nations having surpluses for which there was no market, to give them away. That, of course, would be a little revolutionary but better than what was done after the First Great War, when the surplus crops of coffee and cotton were burned.

No Complaint Here



PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

BALL FIELD EXPENDITURE

Sir, - Many Charlottetown taxpayers besides myself must have been aghast when they read in today's paper that we are to have arched baseball this summer and that the City will pay the cost of operation for the first two years. It is understood that this will equal the total amount of electric power used by several towns in the Province, in fact it will equal several of them combined!

A bottom-of-the-barrel escort system was hastily brought into being. Minesweepers were diverted from local escort and harbour protection duties, armed yachts, ill-fitted for anti-U-boat warfare, were assigned to convoy duty.

There was a lull of nearly two months and then the U-boats struck in earnest. Shortly after midnight of July 6, three ships of a convoy of 12, again escorted by a single minesweeper, went down off Cap Chat.

Corvettes preparing for the North African campaign, destroyers and more minesweepers were dispatched to the St. Lawrence area. American warships guarded convoys routed through the Strait of Belle Isle.

During that summer's campaign, 24 merchant ships were sunk, the armed yacht Raccoon was lost with all hands and the corvette Charlottetown went down with the loss of nine lives. A grievous blow as winter drew near was the torpedoing of the Sydney-Port aux Basques ferry, the S. S. Caribou, at the cost of 136 lives, including that of the only woman member of the Canadian naval services to die from enemy action.

The St. Lawrence campaign brought the war home to Canada as never before and its bitter cost served but to strengthen the will to win. Its vicims share in the honor paid on Battle of the Atlantic Sunday to the 1,797 naval personnel killed and 319 wounded during the war.

Memorable Anniversary Recalls U-Boats In The St. Lawrence

OTTAWA - Observance of Battle of the Atlantic Sunday on May 18 has a special significance this year in that it was exactly 10 years ago that Nazi Germany pressed U-boat warfare far up the St. Lawrence River and Canadian sailors fought and died within sight of the shores of their homeland.

U-boats struck in the St. Lawrence at a time when escort vessels could be spared only at great sacrifice from the North Atlantic convoy lines. The first attack occurred on the night of May 11-12, 1942, off Cap des Rosieres on the Gaspe coast and the British freighter Nicoya and the Dutch freighter Leto went down in flames. War casualties, wounded, shocked and coated with oil, landed for the first time on the hitherto peaceful shores of the St. Lawrence. Late that summer the same Gaspe village was to be shaken by a torpedo which, missing its mark, ran on to the beach and exploded.

Is there a nest. Somewhere in evening, where the flying stiffs? Where each cloud meets its other, the shadowy one. In quiet at the farthest reach of the sun?

Old Charlottetown

(And F. E. I.)

MR. HODGSON'S DEPARTURE "The Rev. G. W. Hodgson leaves today for London, Great Britain, in the hope that rest and change of scene will renew his health, which has not been good for some time past. About a week ago Mr. Hodgson received a very kind address, signed not only by the members of St. Peter's Church but also by others who occasionally attend the services there; and, through the officery, he received about \$150 as an earnest of the love and esteem of the congregation. His absence will be regretted, especially to those to whom he has ministered in holy things, and those engaged in temperance work; and we are quite sure that all who know him will welcome his return. The Rev. W. B. King will have charge of St. Peter's during his absence." -The Examiner, April 17, 1933.

LONDON - (CP) - William Ponting, 79-year-old insurance broker who died recently, left an estate of £215,000. He started 80 years ago as a football player at 24 per week, selling insurance on the side.

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The Beauties Of Learning

(Royal Bank of Canada Monthly Letter)

No farther back than a hundred years ago, education was regarded as a dangerous explosive to be kept under guard. When the battle for popular elementary education was won, there still lingered prejudice against continuing education. In fact, the Canadian Association for Adult Education is only seventeen years old. It was in June 1935 that a constitution was drawn up and a council elected. A year later Dr. E. A. Corbett began to devote his full time to the affairs of the association as Director.

By 1943 the association was ready to state its goal, and a committee under chairmanship of Professor H. R. C. Avison, of Macdonald College, drew up an explicit statement. Ordinary men and women, said the committee, have within themselves and their communities the spiritual and intellectual resources adequate to the solution of their problems. Adult education should awaken people to the possibilities and dangers of modern life; it should deal with the actual and living concerns of actual and living people.

There are, of course, stages in this continuing education: youths leaving school may study the same subjects as their aging grandparents, but not from the same point of view. The disastrous thought for anyone to have is that his present store of knowledge, at whatever age, is sufficient. It would be a mistake to idealize immaturity, to look upon childhood as the most happy time and youth as the radiant age. In reality, maturity is the golden fleece we seek. The child lives in the minute, the youth in the day, the instinctive man in the year, but those who attain a measure of maturity see themselves in relation to an epoch or even eternity.

About Maturity We need to mature our mentality so that it catches up with our techniques, instead of getting along with a way of thinking and feeling that were appropriate in a technically simpler age.

Some Advantages Out of continued learning comes advantages not to be otherwise gained. One that will commend itself to many is the ability of self-expression. Another skill in doing things in a creative way. These - self-expression and making - are ways in which we can in some measure discharge the obligation we feel as debtors to life.

Of greatest importance, perhaps, is the ability that continued learning gives us to think straight. We are apt to drift into a way of thinking with our hopes and our fears and our ignorance. Straight thinking is based upon knowledge. How can a man think if he doesn't know? Mr. W. E. McNeill told at the Autumn Convocation at Queens University a few years ago how Charles Darwin gathered biological facts for twenty years without seeing any winding relationship. Then, said Dr. McNeill, while Darwin was walking through an English country lane, the idea of evolution came to him suddenly. That's what thinking is - the flashing emergence of an idea after facts have been mulled over a long time.

Intellectual curiosity can be satisfied only by continued learning. When we learn progressively how to detect fallacy, how to rise above superstition, how to discern what is relevant, how to discriminate values, and how to brush aside cant and propaganda, then we are taking long steps in continued learning.

We become more skilful, too, in solving problems or in discriminating between problems we can solve and those that must be left to some other power. (To be continued)

The Age-Old Story

And he spake this parable unto them, saying, What man of you having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found that which was lost. Likewise joy doth heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

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